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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 31ST MARCH.

ACCORDING to the *Manchester Guardian*, the Duke of Connaught is to succeed the Duke of Cambrige as Commander-in-Chief.

No Indian Governor was ever so much *feted* previous to his departure for India as Lord Harris has been. He seems to be very popular in England.

THE influenza epidemic is raging at Shillong among the troops. There are one hundred cases in hospital, and hardly any troops are available for a parade.

THE Salvation Army must be said to be doing good work in this country by taking steps for the rescue of fallen and habitual drunkards, both Indian and European.

THE Prince of Wales is taking as zealous an interest in the improvement of the imperial Institute as ever. He is resolved that the Institute shall be one of the great successes of the century.

ONE result of Sir Steuart Bayley's inquiries into the Kol grievances will, it is understood, be the deputation of an experienced officer to the District with a view to the introduction of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

IN his speech at the Kent banquet to Lord Harris, Mr. Goschen said with reference to the people of India :—"Those fellow-subjects who were not of the same colour as themselves, enjoyed the sympathy and the good wishes of all right-thinking men in this country.'

REPLYING to Mr. S. Smith and Sir George Campbell, Sir John Gorst gave a "satisfactory" description of the treatment, experienced by the coolies employed in the Assam tea-gardens, specially relying on the evidence of the Rev. Isac Row, Secretary to the Anglo-Indian Evangelisation Society, whatever the word "satisfactoroy" may mean.

THE *Indian Mirror* says :—'The Hon. Raja Durga Churn Law deserves the best thanks of the Indian community for the ability and force he displayed in his speech on the Railway Bill in requiring the Government to make provision for retiring accommodation in the third-class carriages in the Indian Railways.'

A correspondent of the *Northampton Mercury* writes :—"I had an opportunity of seeing Mr. Bradlaugh's Indian presents on Sunday. They are finer than anything I have ever seen. They largely consist of cases and caskets containing addresses of welcome. I saw one table covered with scroll cases, wrought in solid silver, exquisitely chased and embroidered. One case of this kind was worked in a diagonal pattern. The 'frames'—if I may use the term—were not quite so large as an ear of wheat, and as the case was covered within, and the chasing is all the handiwork of the silversmith, the patient labour lavished upon this lovely piece of work must have been enormous. Another case of the kind was of polished native wood, banded with crowns and coronets. The caskets were even more magnificent. One— nearly a foot in length—was of solid silver, beautifully carved. Another was inlaid on the lid with fine gold and silver. The lid of a third was of carved wood, worked in with silver. It would be impossible to describe them all—and there are a good many of them—and even were it possible, verbal description would give but a very inadequate idea of the rare beauty of these testimonies of India's gratitude to her chosen champion. I also saw some lovely pieces of decorative writing on the vellum address. If possible the presents should be exhibited in Northampton—say, in the Museum, for a few days. Mr. Bradlaugh's constituents would be glad to see how India reverence their member."

Previous to his departure from our midst, his Excellency the Chinese Amban left a memento of his visit to Calcutta, in the form of a donation of five hundred rupees to each of the following charitable institutions, *viz*, the Lady Dufferin Fund, the District Charitable Society, the Institution for Hospital Nurses and the Calcutta Free School. This sum of money (Rs. 2,000) was forwarded by Mr. Hart—who has assisted the Amban in his negotiations—to Mr. Lambert, the Commissioner of Police.

TUESDAY, 1ST APRIL.

A RECENT Hyderabad Government *Gazette* contains a resolution regarding copper coinage in the Nizam's territory. It declares—first, that, while there is an excess of copper coinage, treasuries minting copper are to wholly cease working; second, that silver coins of the value of eight, four, and two annas are to be struck and put into circulation as far as possible in substitution for copper; third, that a premium of one two-anna piece is to be offered to every purchaser of Rs. 50 and over of these smaller coins; and fourth, that when these smaller coins are exchanged for dubs, full change is to be given, but when two-anna pieces are demanded in lieu of dubs a commission of one pice on every rupee is to be allowed.

THE High Court has revised the rules for the admission of advocates. The old rules, dated the last of July 1874, have been repealed, and the new ones came into effect from the 1st March 1890. Any person entitled to practise as a barrister in England or Ireland, or as an advocate in the principal Courts of Scotland, who is of good character, may be admitted as an advocate of the Calcutta High Court. He will apply by letter to the Registrar, Original Side, and file along with testimonials to character a certificate testifying to his eligibility to practise as a barrister or an advocate in the United Kingdom. If the Judges accept him, he will be admitted on payment of the admission-fee. He will be awarded a certificate of admission under the signature of the Registrar and the seal of the Court. Any advocate may, on the payment of a fee of Rs. 5 in Court-fee stamps obtain a certificate, under the same signature and seal, showing that his name is borne on the roll of advocates of the Calcutta High Court. The names of advocates are to be entered alphabetically on a roll and kept by the Registrar, Original Side, and to be open to all persons for inspection without fee or reward.

IT has been recently ruled, after much discussion, that an Indian Volunteer officer is eligible to enter for any of the examinations in foreign languages that are held for officers of the army. The case was raised by a Volunteer officer of the East Indian Railway Corps who wished to submit himself for examination in Russian.

OWING to the distress prevailing in Kumaon and Garhwal, we hear that the Commissioner of Kumaon has asked the co-operation of several Commissioners of Divisions in discouraging pilgrimages during the present season to the shrines of Badrinath and Kedarnath.

THE survey of the proposed Grand Chord line has been completed, and the plans and estimates have just been forwarded to Calcutta. The Engineer staff, who have been in recess at Hazaribagh since the outdoor work was finished, wound up with a fancy dress ball, which was attended by the Lieutenant-Governor on his way back from Chota Nagpur to Calcutta.

IT is now finally arranged that Dr. Harvey, Professor of Midwifery, is to proceed at once to Peshawar to assume charge of the military administrative duties of that district. Speaking of this appointment the *Pioneer* writes :—'It will probably strike most people as singular that a gentleman who has enjoyed a large practice for many years in a Presidency town, and has not seen a soldier, except in the street, since he was quite a junior officer, should be selected for the administrative charge of our principal frontier station. At Peshawar we are, so to speak, always more or less prepared for war at short notice, and it would naturally be presumed that an officer with recent military experience would be placed in charge of the medical arrangements for the British and Native troops. At first sight the responsibility for this singular arrangement would appear to lie with the Surgeon General of Her Majesty's Forces, with whom should rest all such selections. It appears, however, that in consequence of a decision that the administrative charge at Peshawar is to be held alternately by a Brigade-Surgeon of the Indian and Royal Medical Services, Brigade-Surgeon Harvey was detailed by the Surgeon-General with the Government of India, and the Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces, had no option but to accept the selection,'

WEDNESDAY, 2ND APRIL.

NOVELS IN SHORTHAND.—Shorthand is fast becoming a language by itself. Not only is it pressed into the service of every business, but now it finds its way into our homes. Messrs Issac Pitman and Sons having hit upon the happy idea of combining pleasure and business by issuing "The Vicar of Wakefield," "The Pickwick Papers." and other standard works in the corresponding style of phonography. They are very neat little volumes, and Oliver Goldsmith's masterpiece has the additional attraction of pictures. Pitman's system of shorthand lends itself well to such books, and it is not without reason the most popular of the many methods.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Mysore is reported to have subscribed a thousand pounds sterling to Mr. H. S. King's scheme for establishing an Institute in England for Indian gentlemen.

ACCORDING to advices from Teheran, the little favourite of the Shah whose appearance excited great interest everywhere during the Shah's visit to Europe has been betrothed to His Majesty's youngest daughter. In honour of this event the Shah gave a great festival, which in its splendour is said to have surpassed even those mentioned in *the Arabian Nights*. Nasr-ed-Din presented his little favourite with his beautiful estate in the neighbourhood of Teheran. At the same time he handed him a document pronouncing a curse upon any future ruler of Persia who would dare to deprive him of this property.

THE popular tradition, ("Origin of the Forget-me-not) which tells how the name came to be applied to the plant which now bears it throughout Europe, is not generally known. It said that a knight and a lady were walking by the side of the Danube interchanging vows of devotion and affection, when the latter saw on the other side of the stream the bright blue flowers of the myostis, and expressed a desire for them. The knight, eager to gratify her, plunged into the river, and reaching the opposite bank, gathered a bunch of flowers. On his return, however, the current proved too strong for him, and after many efforts to reach the land, he was borne away. With a last effort he flung the fatal blossom upon the bank, exclaiming, as he did so, "Forget me-not." Such fancy derivations are but too common in this country.

MR. J. ALLEN REED has formed a very high opinion of Indians as speakers. In an article in *the Phonetic Journal* of March 1, he says :—"The English speaking was remarkable for its clearness and accuracy. Most of the Indian speakers had as much command over English as if it had been their mother tongue and some of their addresses were really models of composition, I was told they may be taken as fair specimens of the speaking of the average educated Hindu."

WHEN the Czar travels, it is said that a little vanguard is sent in advance, consisting of two locksmiths, two carpenters, and two masons, all of them being married men, born in the Imperial service, and devotedly attached to their august master. Their duties are to examine walls, floors, chimneys and fireplaces, locks and furniture in every room occupied by the Czar. The chimneys in particular are the objects of special attention, in order that no infernal machine shall be concealed in them. Woe betide the fortunes of a crowned head !

THERE is a pretty little good story told of Caroline, queen of George II. The queen lived in St. James's Palace and once moved by covetuousness thought that the adjoining St. James's Park, belonging to the public, would make a nice palace garden. She, therefore, asked the prime minister, Sir Robert Walpole, what it would cost to shut it up, and make it a royal garden. "Oh, a trifle, madam,—a trifle." answered the cynical, shrewd premier. "A trifle, Sir Robert !" replied the queen. "I know better. It will be expensive ; but I wish you to tell me the cost as near as you can guess." "Why, madam, I believe the whole will cost but *three crowns*," rejoined the minister, looking her calmly in the face. The queen seeing that Sir Robert meant three crowns of England, Scotland, and Ireland had the tact to answer. "Then I will think no more of it."

Thursday, 3rd April.

Little has been heard of late from Khairpur, the grievances of whose inhabitants were set out in some length in our columns short time ago. On the 20th ultimo, however, says the *Bombay Gazette*, 'we received a sufficiently authenticated telegram from a resident in the Mir's territory to the effect that one of the Mir's officers had visited the town of Lukhman with a dozen armed men, and had arrested six shop-keepers without cause, and carried them away. The *Punchayet* protested, but they were beaten and driven away. Our correspondent's plaintive appeal "kindly give protection against *zulum*," we pass on to the Government of Bombay.'

Dr Richardson thus writes on the Study of Biograghy :—"I know the value of that from practical experience. There is nothing like this—to know the history of men who have fought the battle of life, who have lost and who have won. What wisdom is to be learned from such a study is beyond my power to estimate. You study not only the man but the times in which he lived. You would learn how varied are men's natures, how differently constituted—some so bright and practical, who never lost an opportunity; others who could not take the tide when it offered and so lost all. But really I do not think there are many groups of men after all. I believe there are thousands of "mute inglorious Miltons," of minds like Shakespeare's who have lived without the conditions which would have developed their genius. If you study human nature in the way I have indicated, you may be of those who are called prophets, with the head turned backward; men who know the history of the past, who are prepared to act in the present and wait with fortitude for what the future may bring"

A further step in the direction of financial decentralisation has just been taken by the Punjab Government. Hitherto, in appropriating any portion of their surplus balances for expenditure on original works, the District Boards have had to procure the special sanction of the Government; but the Lieutenant-Governor has now decided that this condition may be abrogated, and the Boards allowed to make appropriations up to Rs. 15,000 from their accumulated surpluses. The sole qualification is that the money shall in the main be spent on original works and works for the prevention of famine.

For the last thirty years the question of Mahomedan marriages and divorces in Bengal has received a good deal of attention at the hands of the Local Government, but it was not till 1876 that the local Legislature took action in the matter. In that year an Act was passed introducing registration into selected districts of Eastern Bengal where the Mahomedan population is numerous. The principle of the Act, however, was voluntary. Within the last year some Mahomedans have been urging on Government the desirability of making registration compulsory. But the Nawab Abdul Luteef Bahadur, who was the originator of the present Act, recently submitted a minute for the consideration of the Local Government, in which he points out some serious objections to the introduction of the compulsory principle. If the Act were made compulsory in the sense of invalidating, on account of non-registration, marriages and divorces, the consequence would be, in the case of a population hundreds of thousands of whom would not for years and years know of the existence of the law, that illegitimacy would be inflicted on myriads of children and concubinage on their mothers. At the same time thousands of divorced couples would be treated by the law as married, with all consequent rights and responsibilities under their personal law. "Such a state of things," says the Nawab, "would be intolerable to any community." The Lieutenant-Governor has very judiciously decided in dropping the consideration of any proposal for compulsory registration for the present. Reform is not the work of a day. The reformers must be content to move slowly and warily.

Mr. Parnell has filed denials to the charges preferred against him in connection with his association with Mrs. O'Shea. The respondent asks for a month's delay; but Captain O'Shea objects on the ground that Mr. Parnell and respondent are wilfully delaying the proceedings to serve the former's political ends.

The compulsory shaving of the widows is a practice held in abhorrence by the barbers in the Western Presidency. To induce them to perform the task, they are given all the jewellery on the person of the widow. The shavers of Bombay have, however, risen as one man to enter their protest against the custom of shaving the heads of Hindu widows; and, what is more, they appear to mean business. The orthodox party in Bombay have threatened that should the barbers refuse their help, the Brahmins themselves will apply the razor to the widows' tresses.

Friday, 4th April.

Emin Pasha has entered the German service on a salary of a thousand pounds per annum, and abandoned as well all idea of returning to Europe. He proposes to leave Bagamoyo in a fortnight with German officers and a large caravan for the Victoria Nyanza with a view to establish German and oust British trade. The decision is viewed with disfavour in Zanzibar. The Germans everywhere on that coast are displaying phenomenal activity, having made peace with Bwanaheri. Major Wissmann concentrates his energies in this enterprise in land after having forbidden caravans to enter German territory.

The Divisional Judge of Lahore has rejected the appeal of the native journalist recently convicted of libelling the Rajah of Faridkote, and has at the same time refused the application made on behalf of the Raja that the case should be sent up to the Chief Court with a view to an enhancement of the punishment. The original sentence of a fine of Rs 1,000, therefore, stands good.

The *Bombay Gazette* learns that the Viceroy has written a letter to the Duke of Connaught, thanking him for his services in India, and expressing a hope that he will always lend his strong support to the Government in matters concerning the security and well-being of India.

"We are very glad" says the *Indian Spectator*, "to hear of Mr. N. Gupta's election as Port Trustee for Karachi, along with the renewal of the appointment by Government of the Hon. Mr. McHinch. Mr. Gupta is a Bengali, returned by representatives of the Sindhi community. Therein lies the significance of his election." Mr. Gupta is the Editor of the *Phœnix* of Karachi. He is very popular among the Sindhis in that city.

The Salar Jung Debt Commission, after an adjournment of some months, re-assembled at Hyderabad last week.

The mill-owners of Bombay have resolved to suspend the working of their spinning mills for eight days a month for three months, and their weaving department for four days.

His Highness Run Bahadur Singh, Rajah of Tikari, who recently came to Calcutta for medical advice, died at Bhowanipore on Monday night. He was sixty years of age. He has left no heir.

A London paper says :—The late Dowager Empress of Germany by her will distributed all her jewellery among relations and friends, with the exception of a small gold bracelet which she wore day and night durin, her life-time. It was given her by the late Emperor William when they first became betrothed, and the Empress requested that it might be buried with her.'

Mr. William O'Brien, while in prison, busied himself writing a novel and its appearance is awaited with much interest. He declined an offer of £2,000 to allow it to appear as a serial story in an Irish paper.

Here are a few interesting particulars of the Forth Bridge which may very properly be added to the list of the Wonders of the World. A most important feature of the bridge is the 'main piers' which help to support the cantilevers in the shallower water near the shores. There are twelve of these, and six have their foundation 70 to 90 feet below high-water mark. These latter were built by the sinking of caissons, cylinders of wrought iron resembling huge gasometers, sunk into the bed of the Forth, and then filled with concrete and masonry. Each caisson is 70 feet wide at the base The excavators had to work in the lower part of the caissons, into which air was compressed and by the aid of the electric light. The entire length of the bridge is one mile 1,005 yards—the length of the three cantilevers, as joined together, is 5,350 feet. The upper extremities of the cantilevers are 361 feet above high water, and 200 feet over the railway line. It is believed the bridge and the connecting lines of railway will have cost three millions sterling, nearly double the original estimate. Five thousand men were employed upon it, and fifty-six of these lost their lives.

The *Times* publishes a telegram from Constantinople stating that the Sultan has signed an irade ratifying Sir H. Drummond Wolff's Egyptian Convention.

Several sanguinary skirmishes have taken place in Crete between Turkish troops and the insurgents. Turkish agents in Greece have warned Chakir Pasha, the Governor General of Crete, that invasion of Crete by an armed expedition is impending.

General Boulanger is taking a house in London for the season. Why?

Saturday, 5th April.

A solicitor has been arrested in Newcastle charged with begging. The legal profession must indeed be at a low ebb in a town where such an incident can happen.

The value of gold in China depends upon arbitrary circumstances. The price of gold at Pekin was lately ruling at abut 23 taels in silver per ounce, but a few months ago it went down suddenly to 21 taels, owing to the arrival of a high official's family from the provinces, with a great store of gold ornaments, which they were in haste to convert into money for the purchase of land and houses. A currency which cannot be settled without taking into consideration the stock, plethoric or otherwise, of the metropolitan pawnshops, is supposed to be one of the conundrums of Celestial civilisation.

A subscription has been started at Bombay with the object of raising a fund with which to commemorate, in some suitable way, the gratitude of the women of Bombay to Her Excellency Lady Reay for the interest she has taken in their welfare during the last five years. It is at present proposed that the memorial should take the form of a statue or bust. Rs 1,945 were subscribed on the very day the subscription was started.

Another epidemic, novel in its type also, is said to be following in the wake of the influenza. According to the *Pall Mall*, its symptoms are a feeling of paralysis in the limbs and a tendency to lethargic sleep; 'but whereas the grippe was born, bread, and baptised in Russia, the "nena" has its home in the southern regions where Caliban's dam Sycorax brushed "wicked dew" from unwholesome fence. Several cases are reported from Milan, and a scare of the disease, which seems to prove often fatal, is spreading through all Lombardy.'

In replying to a question by Mr. Bradlaugh whether the explanation asked from the Government of India regarding the appointment of Mr. Beames to the Board in spite of a recorded expression of opinion by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal adverse to the appointment, Sir John Gorst stated that the explanation had arrived and would be laid on the table of the House if moved for, and that it would be seen therefrom that the Lieutenant-Governor was not adverse to but recommended the appointment.

In a speech recently delivered by him, Mr. Bradlaugh said: "I am told that men like myself are traitors to the people. If those who speak the truth are traitors, then I would sooner be a traitor than a loyal man."

Dewan Bahadur Luxman Jagannath retires from the administration of the Baroda State on a well-earned pension. His Highness the Gaekwar has promoted Dewan Bahadur Manebhai Jasbhai to the vacant post.

On the authority of the *Medical Record* we learn that Dr. J. M. Coates, who has been the popular principal and able professor of medicine to the Medical College for so many years, retires in July next, and his place will be occupied by Surgeon-Major E A. Birch, formerly Superintendent of the Presidency General Hospital. Dr. J. F. P. McConnell was offered the Principalship, but declined it.

Referring to his suspension Mr. Labouchere has said :—"The House of Commons, not many years ago, expelled his colleague because he did not believe in things heavenly; they suspended him (Mr. Labouchere) yesterday because he would not believe in things of the earth, earthy. He declined to believe in the Marquis of Salisbury. He would like to see the Conservative who would stand up and say on his honour that he believed one single word the Marquis of Salisbury ever said. When people wanted to say that a person was telling a lie, and wished to say it civilly, they said, "You tell a Salisbury." He thought Lord Salisbury, when he (Mr. Labouchere) said he would not believe him, would consider it a delicate flattery. Everybody liked to excel in some particular character. Lord Salisbury's speciality was that he could not tell one single word of truth. Some years ago, when Lord Salisbury was questioned about a treaty in the House of Lords—it was a lord who questioned him—and he was asked when he had signed a certain treaty that had been published, he said there was not a word of truth in it. He had either got it in his pocket at that time or got it at the office, and it was a gross and deliberate falsehood They might turn him (Mr. Labouchere) out of Parliament as often as they liked, but as long as he had a seat in the House he never would sit still when a distinction was made in the administration of justice between a rich man and a poor man; he would demand an equal administration of justice whether a man was the highest or lowest in the country."

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The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1890.

INDIAN COUNCILS BILL.

LORD CROSS'S Bill has passed the House of Lords. There is but little or no perceptible difference between the original form in which it was presented in the House and the form in which it has come out of it. Our readers, by this time, are, no doubt, acquainted with the full text of the Bill. In introducing his Bill Lord Cross observed that for the purpose of making laws and regulations the Council of India was composed not only of the ordinary members, but of members nominated by the Governor-General. Their powers, however, were very limited. No business could be transacted at any such meeting of the Council other than the consideration of such measures as were introduced to the Council for the purpose of enactment. 'The consequence was', his Lordship continued, 'that when the Budget was brought before them, and fresh legislation was required, it was then competent for the Council to discuss the whole provisions of the Government; but on the other hand if no legislation was required, no discussion could take place, and no criticisms could be passed upon the proposals submitted. No members of the Legislative Council could, therefore, ask the Government of India any questions as to any of their acts, or as to any matter which might have occupied the attention of the Government. He had had considerable communication with the present Viceroy upon the subject, and, in consequence, had not the smallest doubt of his view of these matters. On March 29, 1889, the Viceroy made a speech to the Council, in the course of which he said that it had been usually felt that the terms of the Act by which their proceedings were regulated refused the examination of the Budget except when the financial arrangements for the year required legislation in Council. The result was that the Legislative Council had not been able to discuss the Budget unless some change was to be effected in the laws of the country. That he must confess was a very inconvenient and incongruous arrangement. The Viceroy went on to say that the subject was closely connected with the propriety of giving to the Council of India under proper safeguards the right of addressing questions to the Government on matters of public interest in such a way as to preclude injury to public business. In all those observations of the Viceroy he heartily and entirely concurred. He had first to inquire whether it was possible under the existing law to carry out and give effect to the Viceroy's wishes, and, after a very close examination he felt satisfied that fresh legislation was required for the purpose. As the functions of the Council must be enlarged, he had considered it wise also to give powers to the Governor-General to nominate a still larger number of members to the Council than was permitted by the existing law, and so widen the selection of the persons he would have around him. The same object and the same reasons applied exactly in the same degree to the provincial councils, and, therefore, in the Bill there was a provision for increasing their number as well as their functions. The Bill would, therefore, apply not only to the Council of the Governor-General, but also to the provincial councils.'

The origin of the Bill as explained by Lord Cross is thus referred to in the *Pioneer*:

> The origin of the Bill has nothing to do with the claims of advanced thinking in reference to giving the Legislative Councils a broader base. The main idea in the first instance was merely to amend the Councils Act so as to provide that there should always be a statement in Council concerning the Budget whether there was fresh legislation to propose in connection with it or not. This has been an old subject of misunderstanding between the Government and the public opinion of India, such as it is. Whenever, in the absence of any need for new financial legislation, the Budget Statement has been necessarily published in the *Gazette* without being made the subject of a speech by the Financial Member in Council, there has always been some outcry against the wickedness of the Government in "burking" discussion. In accordance with the strongly expressed wish of the present Viceroy, the India Office prepared a measure to authorise the open statement in Council as a matter of course, and would have brought it forward next year if it had not been for the pressure of other business. Now that the matter is to be practically dealt with, the India Office has further thought it worth while to take the opportunity of throwing a sop to the Radicals. Provision has therefore been made for the expansion of the Legislative Council. The Viceroy is to be empowered to nominate some extra members. Whether the Indian Radical will accept this concession as a sop or regard it as so much of a mockery as to be almost an insult remains to be seen.'

We had at first hoped that the present Bill would at least be framed on the lines of the recommendations made by Lord Dufferin. But that is not to be. We regret that the despatches of Lord Dufferin on the subject had not been published. Lords Ripon and Northbrook pressed for the production of the papers and urged that if there had been any official communications between the Government of India and the Government 'at home' with regard to the constitution of the Indian Councils their Lordships should be placed in full possession of the views both of the noble lord who now occupies the office of Viceroy of India and of Lord Dufferin. But Lord Cross refused to produce the papers. Suspicions were entertained in certain quarters that there was yet something behind the correspondence that has since been published. It is believed that 'the Parliamentary paper on the face of it has all the appearance of a document shorn of its true proportion and intrinsic worth. It is a mere attenuated shadow of the real opinions of the authorities consulted.' What does all this mean? Who will enlighten us as to the true state of things? But let that pass. Let us see what is the attitude of the Government of Lord Lansdowne towards the subject. The present Government, as we have shown already, upon a more careful consideration of the situation, would not be prepared to oppose the introduction of an elective principle in the Bill, should the Commons see their way of granting it.

Two amendments have been adopted in the Upper House—one empowering the local Councils to undertake legislation in certain matters without the previous consent of the Governor-General, and the other enabling the Viceroy and the heads of local Governments to regulate the conditions under which they shall nominate members of Council. The Bill passed through the Lords in great haste. The introduction, the debate, the passing—all took but three weeks only. The House had scarcely any opportunity of being acquainted with the public opinion of this country. The debate shows how feeble a discussion the Bill underwent at the second reading. We find that while the Tory Lords were strongly opposed to it, the Liberal Lords, from whom warmer sympathies were certainly expected, were cautious and guarded in their expressions on it. It is refreshing to turn to Lord Dufferin's opinion on the subject of Legislative reform. In the final paragraph of his despatch Lord Dufferin said:—"In conclusion, should my colleagues and myself be fortunate enough to obtain the assent of the Secretary of State to our proposals, we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that we have inaugurated a fresh advance along that path of wise, prudent, sympathetic and reasonable progress which, as education advances in India, the intelligent public opinion of our Native fellow-subjects will be entitled to demand, and we shall thus have given a further proof of the genuine desire of the Queen Empress and of the Parliament and people of England to do anything in their power to meet the wishes, to satisfy the aspirations, and to promote the happiness of all classes and communities that are contained within our vast Indian Empire." We do not know why His Lordship's opinion has not been given its due weight in framing the Bill.

Besides the provision for an elective element there are other important points also which have not been sufficiently provided for in the Bill. With regard to the increase of members the minimum and maximum limits have been fixed at 10 and 16 for the Viceroy's Council, and 8 and 20 for Provincial Councils. The increase, we hold, ought to have been larger. Sir Steuart Bayley proposes 30 as the maximum limit. The number suggested by His Honor is, we think, more adequate to secure an effective representation of all interests. The proportion of non-official members is fixed at one-half, but it is not obligatory, which ought to have been. With regard to the discussion of the budget it is provided that there should be no motion or resolution. A vote should be taken to shew the balance of opinion after a debate, but the vote would have no binding effect—certainly this is pointless. Right of interpellation has been conceded, but it is hedged round by such limitations as impair its very usefulness. Let us see now what salutary changes are introduced in the Bill in the Commons. From what we gather from the latest telegrams the prospect does not appear to be very hopeful. A Reuter's telegram informs us that while Mr. Bradlaugh will move an amendment on the Bill, regretting that it recognises no elective principle Mr. Maclean "will oppose the elective principle as being unsuited to the people of India, and opposed to British interest." The London correspondent of the *Hindu* gives some idea of the difficulties which the reform-party will have to meet:

> After Easter comes the tug-of war. Your Parliamentary and other friends are not unmindful of their duty. Already a conference between those interested in both Houses, is arranged and will shortly be held. Sir Richard Garth, who finds Lord Cross's Bill does not go far enough while he considers the Congress Bill goes too far, suggests that both measures should be referred to a Select Committee which should take evidence as to the need of a more thorough enactment than the Secretary of State proposes. There is much virtue in this proposal and great good might result from such a course being followed. It is quite certain, however, that the Government will not agree to this course unless the leaders of the opposition are heartily in favour of it. Whether Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues will take up such a position this writer knoweth not. Assume that neither this nor any other course which would ensure delay and time for an expression of the opinion of the people of India at large on the rival Bills, is possible and that the measure takes the ordinary course. On the second reading there would be at least one day's debate: there might be two. Then, if the friends of a larger Bill were defeated or closured—one or other would certainly happen—and the second reading agreed to. I should think Mr. Bradlaugh would, on the motion for going into committee, move that it be an instruction to the Committee to enlarge the provisions relating to the Budget and interpellation and to introduce the elective system. Upon this there could be a night's debate. Then, in Committee, amendments which if carried would completely alter the character of the Bill would be announced and there would be many struggles over the various clausee. Before this stage was reached the session would be near its end.

We will take no notice here of the petition of the so-called "Indian Patriotic Association" that is being circulated for signatures among the Mahomedans of India; but we should remind the different Standing Committees that Mr. Bradlaugh suggested, while he was in Bombay, that the demand of the Congress should be embodied in a petition to Parliament and this petition should be *numerously signed*. No time should be lost now in sending in this petition.

DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING OF THE INDIAN COUNCILS BILL.

IN the Debate which rose out of Lord Cross's motion for the second reading of the Indian Councils Bill, two ex-Viceroys and two ex-Secretaries of State for India took part. The discussion was opened by Lord Northbrook, who gave the Bill his support. His Lordship was not, however, completely satisfied with it. He pointed out that the apprehensions entertained in some quarters in 1861 when non-officials were for the first time admitted into the several Legislative Councils in India had been removed by time and that undoubtedly at the present day there were many more Native gentlemen who, from their education and position, were doing useful work in the Councils than when he was in India 16 years ago. Lord Northbrook referred to the National Congress and the proposals put forward by it for the

reform of the Legislative Councils. His Lordship distinctly said that there was great advantage to be derived from having an expression of the opinion of the educated classes in India upon public affairs. At the same time he insisted on the great difficulty of forming a body representative of the people of India. Lord Northbrook, however, had the good sense to see that the time has come for the recognition of the elective principle in the constitution of the Legislative Councils and he appealed to Her Majesty's Government to re-consider this portion of the Bill. After stating that Lord Dufferin had expressed himself in favour of some representation, Lord Northbrook regretted that the Government had not been able to introduce into the Bill a provision whereby a portion of the non-official members of the local Councils at any rate might be chosen by some system of election or selection and not left to a system of pure nomination such as now existed. He said :—"He trusted that it might be possible for Her Majesty's Government to re-consider this portion of the Bill, so as not to shut the door to the introduction of some system of election or selection into the Legislative Councils. In his opinion some system of election or selection might be safely carried out. At the same time no man was more convinced than he was of the necessity of dealing cautiously and tentatively with this great question. He had no doubt that any great scheme of popular representation would be wholly inapplicable to India at the present day, but he was convinced that some thing might be done to meet the feeling that existed among some of the most loyal and able men in India in favour of representation, at any rate, as regarded the local Councils." This expression of opinion in favour of the recognition of the elective principle in the constitution of the Legislative Councils coming, as it does, from an able, and cautious and moderate statesman like Lord Northbrook should carry very great weight with the British public. His Lordship's views on Indian questions are always entitled to most careful and attentive consideration, and we cannot but deeply regret that Her Majesty's Government did not entertain the suggestion made by him. The Marquis of Ripon, who spoke next, agreed very much with Lord Northbrook on this matter, and he earnestly hoped that Her Majesty's Government would give great weight to what had fallen from the noble Earl and to the appeal which he had made to them to alter the Bill so as to render it possible for the Government of India to introduce into the local Councils and also into the Governor-General's Council some principle of election or selection. The Marquis did not hesitate to say that if some such power were not given by this Bill it would be necessary to pass a fresh Act of Parliament for the purpose of allowing changes of that kind to be introduced even into the local Councils. Lord Ripon went a little further and suggested that any Bill of this kind should be made an empowering one. His Lordship observed :—"They should lay down the principle on which they desired the Councils to be constituted, but should leave as much as they could the details with respect to them to be arranged by the Government and the Legislature of India. He could not say that it was desirable to increase the number of nominated members, nominated as they are at present; and he was inclined to think, with respect to the Governor-General's Council that this was the opinion of the Government of India. * * * As far as his experience went he thought that, if they increased the number of nominated members to be selected by the Viceroy and Governors, the Government would not be adding to a difficulty which already existed. * * * It should be borne in mind that in 1861 there was scarcely anything in the nature of municipal institutions. It was one of the many benefits conferred on India by the late Lord Mayo that he began to establish a system of municipal organization in India. That policy was carried out yet more fully by his noble friend Lord Northbrook, and since then it had been more widely extended. At the present time, therefore, they possessed in the municipal bodies of India, as well as in certain other bodies which had sprung up since 1861, the means of securing the selection of fitting men to serve on the local Councils at all events, and who would be representative of different parts of the country and different sections of native opinion. In 1861 the progress of education in India had been very slight. The great despatch of Lord Halifax had borne but little fruit. Now education was wide-spread and it was bearing much fruit; and although his noble friend had spoken of the small number of men who had passed through the highest educational tests in India, that number was a growing number and already the Government had among them an ample field of selection of persons well acquainted with the English language and fitted to take their part in the discussion and consideration of measures which were submitted to the Councils." The accuracy of these observations will be questioned by few persons who are acquainted with the actual state of things existing in this country. All sensible and right-minded men will also agree with Lord Ripon that it was of great value to the Government of India that their measures should be freely criticised in the Council by men, who represented in the best manner the various parts of the country and the various interests and classes; and that the mere fact of a man having been selected by the Government and put in the Council as their nominee seriously interfered with his influence among his fellow-countrymen. Lord Ripon, therefore, agreed with Lord Northbrook that the time had come when the object of the Act of 1861 in obtaining a representation of Native opinion in the Legislative Councils, might be best secured by providing that a portion of their such members should be chosen by some such bodies as the larger Municipal Councils or other public bodies to be selected.

Lord Cross, in replying to the observations made by Lords Northbrook and Ripon, raised an altogether irrelevant question. His Lordship proceeded on the assumption that those who advocated the recognition of the elective principle in the constitution of the Legislative Councils in this country demanded the introduction with India of Parliamentary institutions such as England possessed. And having raised this false issue, Lord Cross went on to say that no man in his senses would ever think of giving to India, under present circumstances, a Parliamentary constitution such as Englishmen enjoyed, as it would be absolutely unsuited to Eastern habits, and equally unsuited to a place like India. Now, this is quite beside the point. Lords Northbrook and Ripon did not advocate the introduction of Parliamentary institutions into India. The had merely urged that the noble object which the framers of the Act of 1861 had in view in providing for the admission of non-official members into the several Legislative Councils might be best secured by laying down that a portion of these members should be chosen by some form of election or selection. This being the case, we are entirely at a loss to understand how Lord Cross could interpret the excellent suggestion made by Lords Northbrook and Ripon into a demand for the introduction of Paliamentary institutions into India. We fully agree with the present Secretary of State that no man in his senses would think of introducing into India a Parliamentary constitution such as England possessed. But the question before him was not whether Parliamentary institutions which Englishmen have the good fortune to live under should be extended to India, but whether a portion of the non-official members of the several Legislative Councils in this country should be chosen by some form of election or selection. Three ex-Viceroys—Lords Northbrook, Ripon and Dufferin—have expressed themselves in favor of introducing a representative element into the Government of India, and their opinions are surely entitled to carry greater weight with the British public than that of Lord Cross, who has no personal knowledge of the country. In the teeth of those opinions the present Secretary of State, in the plenitude of his wisdom, has discovered that the time has not yet arrived for recognizing the elective principle in the constitution of the Legislative Councils of India. We have no hesitation whatever in saying that in this matter the views of Lord Kimberley who had been at the head of the India Office for many years are entitled to as much weight as those of the present Secretary of State. Lord Kimberley, in replying to Lord Cross, remarked that it was a matter of regret that the noble Viscount did not take a larger step in the direction of introducing in some form the elective element into the local Councils. Lord Kimberley also pointed out that the late Viceroy's opinion in favour of election to the local Councils had been expressed when he had had full and ample time to satisfy himself on the subject he had to consider; and his Lordship rightly urged that it was scarcely fair to Parliament that they should have to legislate on such a question as this without having fully in their hands the opinions of Lord Dufferin. "Lord Dufferin," as Lord Kimberley remarked, "never could have been so imprudent, holding a position of immense responsibility, as to promulgate an opinion on such a subject unless he had come deliberately and dispassionately to the conclusion that it embodied a practical policy which could be carried into effect. He fully approved the suggestion which had been made to introduce provisions in the Bill whereby the Governor-General might have power to frame a scheme with regard to representation to be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval." We are exceedingly sorry, though not at all surprised, to find that Lord Salisbury, in speaking on the Indian Councils Bill, went even further than Lord Cross. The Prime Minister opined that the introduction of a new principle into India would form the greatest responsibility any Government could have to face; and that government by representation does not fit Eastern traditions or Eastern minds. Whatever may be the case in Turkey, Egypt or Crete, we may tell Lord Salisbury that Government by representation has been in operation in India from time immemorial in its village punchayet system; and that the recognition of the elective element in the constitution of the Legislative Councils would not involve the introduction of a new principle into India. We are really astonished to find that Lord Salisbury who had twice been Secretary of State for India does not know that the elective principle has been recognized in this country for some years in the constitution of Municipal and Local Boards and that it has, on the whole, worked satisfactorily. We wish, for the sake of his own reputation, that Lord Salisbury had not taken a part in the debate on the Indian Councils Bill and displayed such lamentable ignorance.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

THE discussion on the Budget in the Viceroy's Legislative Council last Friday week mainly turned upon three points—remission of taxation, refund of the contributions taken from the Local Governments in 1889-90, and the Railway policy of the Government of India. In view of the surplus of 2¾ crores of rupees shown in the Budget, the question of the remission of taxation was raised by the Hon'ble Mr. Nulkar and the Hon'ble Syed Ameer Hossain. The former gentleman urged on the Government the desirability of reducing the salt duty to the rate at which it stood until the beginning of 1888—namely Rs. 2 per maund; while Syed Ameer Hossein again suggested the raising of the taxable minimum of incomes from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. Mr. Nulkar drew the attention of Government to what he called the extreme hardship and privation from which the great bulk of the people of India suffer in consequence of the enhancement of the salt duty which was effected two years ago. And Syed Ameer Hossein pointed out that the income-tax pressed hard on the people whose annual earnings vary from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. The Viceroy, while admitting that the present financial situation is eminently hopeful, declined to entertain the proposals of Mr. Nulkar and Syed Ameer Hossein for remission of taxation. His Excellency observed: "Some complaint has been made of us because we have not at once taken advantage of the first symptoms of returning prosperity in order to remit taxation. Those by whom this complaint is made can, I venture to think, not have thoroughly realised our position. The Hon'ble Mr. Nulkar referred to the reduction of the salt duty and to the question of raising the minimum at which incomes are liable to be taxed. The reduction of the salt duty by 8 annas to Rs. 2, the rate at which it stood until the beginning of 1888, would involve a sacrifice of revenue to the extent of about Rx, 1,500,000. The raising of the

taxable minimum of incomes from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 would cost us about Rx. 300,000, It might perhaps have been possible for us to reduce taxation under one or two other of these heads, and yet to make both ends meet in the financial year upon which we are about to enter. I hope, however, it will not be contended in this room that it is the duty of the Government of India at once to remove taxation, merely because it happens for the moment to have at its command resources which would permit it to adopt such a course. The removal of an existing tax is very nearly as serious a matter as the imposition of a new one. A Government has no right to abandon revenue until it has a reasonable certainty that at all events, as far as, it is able to foresee, it will be able to dispense with that revenue. A policy which would impose taxes one year and remove them the next, because there was a break in the clouds, with the prospect of being compelled to re-impose them immediately afterwards, is not worthy of the name of a policy and would be fatal not only to the stability of our finances, but to the comfort and convenience of the public. We are, I believe, not yet in a position permanently to abandon revenue to the extent involved in any of the above proposals. It may be that the time will come when we shall be able to consider them favourably and when that time comes the Hon'ble the Financial Member will no doubt bear in mind the recommendations to which we have listened. That time has, however, not yet come." There is much force in the observations we have just quoted. The doctrine which Lord Lansdowne has propounded is a thoroughly sound one. The Government cannot be too careful in the matter of remitting taxation, more especially as experience has conclusively demontrated the unwisdom of the measures in this direction which were adopted eight years ago by Lord Ripon and Sir Evelyn Baring. In the annals of British Indian administration there has never been such a large remission of taxation as in 1882. We felt it our duty to strongly protest against the reduction of the salt tax and the abolition of the import duties, which were carried eight years ago at a loss of revenue amounting to about 2½ crores. The relief which the reduction of the salt tax afforded to the people was so infinitesimally small that it was scarcely appreciable; but while the benefit to the tax-payer was so small as to be hardly felt, the loss of revenue to Government was immense. As regards the abolition of the import duties, it was generally felt that the Government would never have taken such a step had its policy been guided by a sole regard to the interests of the Indian people. The remission of taxation carried out in 1882 greatly weakened the financial position, and we felt assured that the Government would find it necessary sooner or later to revive the taxes then removed, and that the adoption of such a course would produce great discontent. Our predictions have been fully verified. In the course of a short time the salt duty was raised and the Patwari Cess re-imposed in the North-Western Provinces. And if the import duties have not been revived, it is simply because the Home Government, whether Conservative or Liberal, would not hear of such a proposal for fear of losing the Lancashire vote. But the Government could not long do without the revenue which was derived from the import duties, and in order to fill the gap caused by their abolition, it re-imposed the Income-tax at the beginning of 1886. We need hardly say that in remitting taxes that tax deserves priority of attention which is productive of injustice, hardship and oppression, and which, however sound in theory, causes irritation and discontent among the people. Judged by this standard, the income-tax ought to be taken off first of all, when Government is in a position to remit taxation. The political mischief which flows from the practical working of this impost was fully recognised by statesmen like Lord Canning and Lord Mayo, and this "odious" tax, as the late Sir Henry Durand justly characterised it, should never been re-imposed.

The Hon'ble Mr. Evans, as we said in our last, strongly advocated the restoration of the contributions which were levied from the Local Governments last year, and the Lieutenant-Governor made an earnest appeal to the Government of India on this subject in so far as this Province is concerned. Sir Steuart Bayley pointedly asked the Finance Minister if he would not be able to restore the contribution. Sir David Barbour, as we have already said, turned a deaf ear to the Lieutenant-Governor's earnest request. Without attempting to answer the arguments of Sir Steuart Bayley and Mr. Evans, the Finance Minister stated in plain terms that the contributions taken from the Local Governments last year would not be restored, and that they should look upon the same as a surrender once for all. We cannot too deeply regret the refusal of the Finance Minister to respond to the earnest appeal of Sir Steuart Bayley.

The Hon'ble Sir Alexander Wilson, as representative of the European mercantile community, complained that the Government had put forward no defined policy with regard to the future construction of railways. He said:—"I quite recognise the difficulty in the face of ever-changing circumstances of laying down any hard-and-fast line of action; but I submit that the time has come when Government should be prepared to say what part it will take in the future. A glance at the figures shows that railways occupy no insignificant position in the revenue accounts of India. If the Government are prepared to go on with the development and extension of railways throughout the Empire, I do not think that the modest allotment of 6¼ crores as provided for in the Budget will go far to keep pace with the requirements of the country. And, on the other hand, if Government is not prepared to go on with the work, I think it is incumbent that it should throw the field more widely open to private enterprise, on such terms as may seem just and reasonable". Well, if unassisted private enterprise was willing to undertake the construction of railways in this country, nothing could be more welcome to the Government and the taxpayer. But as a matter of fact, Sir Evelyn Baring's private enterprise policy which was announced with such a flourish of trumpets nine years ago has completely failed, as we had ventured to predict. The simple truth is that English capitalists would not invest in Indian railways unless they were guaranteed by the Government against loss. Sir Charles Elliott pertinently pointed out that there is no private enterprise worthy the name, and that when the Government could borrow at 3 per cent, they saw no necessity to go to a company and borrow at 3½ or 4 per cent. During the past ten years the number of miles of railway open has increased from 8,382 to 14,437, or by more than 72 per cent, and with this progress the European mercantile community ought to be satisfied. The total capital outlay on Railway construction in India up to date exceeds 200 crores, and this is enough for a poor country like India. During the past ten years no less than 75 crores have been invested in Indian railways. The charges which the Indian taxpayer has even now to bear on account of railways amount to 2 crores per annum; and the Government cannot be too careful in increasing this burden. It should, moreover, be borne in mind that as railways have now been built along the most important lines of communication, the financial results of the lines that may be constructed in the future can hardly be expected to be better than those of the railways already open.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THE Queen visits the Emperor William and the Empress Frederick at Darmstadt before returning to England. The Prince of Wales visited President Carnot in Paris, and then proceeded to Caines.

WE are pleased to learn that having regard to its urgent necessity the Maharaja of Betiah has increased his donation to the Science Association from four to ten thousand rupees. It is quite worthy of this wealthy and enlightened nobleman and we can only hope that others will follow his example and place the Association above wants.

LORD HARRIS, the new Governor of Bombay, is expected to reach the Presidency on the 10th instant. This will be two days before, not after Lord Reay's departure as previously announced. This new arrangement will be acceptable to the Bombayites because it will give an opportunity to the retiring Governor to imbue his successor with his broad and enlightened views and liberal sympathies with the people. Whatever the *Pioneer* and others aggrieved at Lord Reay's attitude, towards the Crawford case may say, His Lordship is decidedly one of the best Governors that Bombay ever had, and if Lord Harris will but follow in his wake there will be little to complain of about the administration of the Presidency for the next five years.

SIR T. Madhava Rao, who has been advocating the adoption of Lord Cross's Bill, is dissatisfied at his own moderate views not finding favour. He has, therefore, resigned his place in the Madras Standing Congress Committee. This is a loss to the movement, for it is difficult to secure the counsels of a man of strong common sense and political sagacity like Sir T. Madhava Rao.

THE hands of our friends in England needs strengthening, and we are glad that meetings are being held in support of the cause. There was an enthusiastic mass meeting at Agra on Thursday last, which was addressed by Pandit Ayodhyanath, and which condemned Lord Cross's Bill and supported Mr. Bradlaugh.

WE deeply regret to learn that Mrs. Hume died at Simla last week. We sincerely condole with the bereaved husband and hope that in his affliction, severe as it is, God may grant him strength to continue his noble and self-imposed work.

THE net increase in the British revenue for the year ending in 31st March is £830,000. The Excise duties show a decrease of a million and-a-half. It is expected that Mr. Goschen's Budget will show a surplus of one million sterling.

MR. SPENCER, who is touring in the North-Western Provinces, had a successful parachute descent on Thursday. His first attempt was unsuccessful owing to his balloon having caught fire before the ascent, which has caused him considerable loss.

AT the High Court on Monday last before the Hon. Mr. Justice Wilson sitting in chambers, Mr. Rutter applied for leave to file a plaint on behalf of Babu Jadu Lal Mallick against the Calcutta Corporation for wrongful seizure and wrongful removal of certain carriages belonging to him, claiming Rs.20,000 as damages. The cause of action accrued, as our readers will remember, on the 6th of February last, and Mr. Rutter asked for written statement. The plaint was admitted and the Corporation was ordered to file its written statement within the usual time. It is said that the rates and taxes in respect of which this shameful scandal was perpetrated were not realizable from the plaintiff at all, nor from any one residing in the house. There is a very good suggestion that before the Corporation makes its defence, it should be determined whether rate-payers ought to be made to pay the costs and whether their funds should be appropriated in payment of damages should any be awarded.

THE Czar had just been giving indication of great clemency. The Czar and Czarina paid a visit to the military prison at St. Petersburg, when their Majesties addressed some of the prisoners kindly, and inquired of them the causes of their arrest. They then liberated sixty, and reduced the sentences of others. Madame Tohebrikova, who lately wrote a threatening letter to the Czar, being released by the express order of his Majesty. But concession and clemency did not do their work and there was a further attempt on the Czar's

life last week. The attempt was unsuccessful, but the result was bad, inasmuch as serious illness of the Emperor followed and he had several fainting fits. The *Times* states that the movement in Russia in favour of a Liberal Constitution is exciting much disquiet at Vienna, where it is feared that the powerful Panslavists around the Czar will persuade him to divert attention from domestic affairs by engaging in war.

THE Rev. Mr. James Johnstone, to whose exertion the establishment of the Society for the diffusion of useful literature in India is mainly due, left for England on Thursday last. Before doing so he had the satisfaction of doing good work in Madras, Bombay, Allahabad and Lahore, in each of which places he was cordially received and every interest was shown for his scheme. The Calcutta Provisional Committee met, under the presidency of Sir Charles Elliott, at No.2 Middleton Street, on Saturday before last. The Government of India cordially approves of the object of the Society and has undertaken to give it a a monthly grant in aid of 500 rupees when permanently established. The Bengal Government has not yet promised any specific grant, but has assured the promoters of the movement that such grant would be made having in view the amount of public support accorded to the movement. A Committee, consisting of the Bishop of Calcutta, Sir Alfred Croft, the Rev. K.S.Macdonald, Nawab Abdool Luteef, Mr. W. F. Dauby, Mr. Protap Chunder Mozoomdar, Rai Radhika Prasanno Mukerjee and Pundit Hara Prasad Sastri, has been appointed to work out the scheme in its practical aspect.

WE were in error last week in stating that Mr. Lee has joined the Calcutta Corporation as a Commissioner. He has either anticipated his permanent appointment or is Joint-Chairman, though the law does not sanction or recognise such a functionary. By way of learning his business he is already writing notes, issuing orders and doing a host of other things for his chief that is quite encouraging to contemplate, and which is an earnest of the zeal and energy that are sure to be brought to bear upon the discharge of his duties. There is, however, recalcitrance in some departments of the office, and Mr. Lee's authority has been actually questioned by a departmental head who desired to know whether the new Chairman had taken charge. Such Babu-like independence is truly to be deplored.

THE Labour Conference recommends that courts of arbitration be appointed to decide all labour disputes, and that periodical International Congresses be held for the interchange of views and experiences, thereby creating a basis for international labour law. The Conference also recommends the limitation of labour in the case of women and children, and the stoppage of work on Sundays, substantially in accordance with the laws of Great Britain on the subject. Each State is to be left to execute the recommendations of the Conference in its own way.

PRINCE Bismarck's final departure from Berlin was the signal for a great popular outburst of sympathy towards him. The route to the railway station was thronged by an enormous multitude of people who cheered the ex-Chancellor unceasingly. The carriage in which he rode was accompanied by a Guard of Honour, and troops lined the streets. At the station, where mountains of bouquets had been deposited by his admirers of every class were assembled members of the Cabinet and other State officials, besides all members of the Corps Diplomatique. A popular ovation was also organized for the Prince at Fredrichsruhe and a brilliant torchlight procession formed a part of the demonstration. The Prince has received countless telegrams from all parts congratulating him on the occasion of his birth-day.

THE Uncovenanters are already arranging for witnesses appearing before the Parliamentary Committee of Enquiry into their grievances. Among the probable witnesses named are Sir Alfred Croft, Messrs. Elliot, Ribbentrop, O'Conor, O'dling, and Walker. A fund is being raised to meet the expenses, to which each member of the Service will contribute ten per cent of his salary while one member has come down with a thousand rupees. Steps should be taken, we think, in Indian interest to represent before the Committee the other side of the case and the Congress delegates now present in England may be useful also in this connection. Lord Cross has expressed himself willing to grant special leave to the Uncovenanted Servants whom it may be deemed fit by the Association to send to England in order to give evidence before the Committee of Enquiry, while Mr. Garot in a fortnight hence will move that their expenses be paid by the Government of India.

IN some wards of Calcutta the Municipal Assessor is giving notice that the new assessment will be in force for three years and a half. Why should this be so? Unless we are much mistaken in our reading of the law an assessment once made will be in force for six years and rate-payers will be perfectly within their right to refuse the assessment to be re-opened. In the mean time, the philosophy of this departure is rather curious. The assessor refuses to explain it and surmises are naturally going on. It is supposed that the Municipal Executive think three years a fair allowance for the completion of the Central Road and six months more for revision of assessment in the wards through which it will pass. The Central Road is expected to enhance the value of land and house property in its neighbourhood, and the Municipality is naturally counting its eggs in advance, and wants to have a way kept free for revision, so that apart from the sale of inquitously acquired surplus land there may be furthur enhancement in the assessment to pay the way of the Central Road as if the proposed enhancement is not quite enough. They find a difficulty already in the shape of fabulous prices asked for Burrabazar property, and have discreetly begun work at the Sealdah End. The powerful influence of Sir Henry Harrison and Mr. Cotton once removed, further pecuniary difficulties may arise, and by way of having a very feeble second string there is probably this prospective enhancement in view. Assessment work, in the mean time, is going on merrily and unheard of rates imposed. In some instances indeed *rufa* tactics is being resorted to, somewhat to the relief of the favoured few, but the general cry is one of distress.

INFLUENZA is committing havoc in all directions in Calcutta, and work in schools, colleges, shops, offices, mills, factories and all other places of business has to be partially suspended in consequence. It is incomprehensible that in this state of affairs the learned people of the Calcutta University should have been so oblivious of public requirements as to insist upon the B. L. Examination being held this week. A large number of candidates are down with fever, and others are in constant trepidation and anxiety as to when it should be their turn to be "caught." It is not fair to go on with a public examination at a time when an epidemic is raging, and specially in the face of medical opinion. We understand that Doctor Raye and Doctor Mahendralal Sircar, who are on the Syndicate, cordially supported the prayer for respite, but others who are evidently wiser knew better, and the fiat has gone forth that the examination is to be commenced to-day under the original arrangement.

THE Bengal National Chamber of Commerce have memorialised the Lieutenant-Governor on the question of keeping the Currency Office open during the Durga Pujah Holidays, which the Chamber rightly think should not be further curtailed. The matter is one of a most important character, inasmuch as it affects a very numerous portion of Her Majesty's subjects. The question ought not, therefore, to be disposed of without very serious and full consideration of its various aspects. The Chamber is of opinion that, in fixing the number of the Durga Pujah holidays at twelve, the reduction of those holidays has reached the lowest possible limit, and considers that, whatever small business of the mercantile community may be impeded by the Currency Office being closed, could be arranged for before-hand, and, as hitherto, without any serious difficulty. It was understood that the Negotiable Instruments Act had settled the question once for all, and the Chamber submits that the mere opinion of the Head Commissioner of Paper Currency should not be allowed to have greater weight with the Government than the maturely formed decision of successive Viceroys and Governors-General in Council. Were the Currency Office kept open even partially during the Durga Puja other offices would soon follow suit, and the change would thus be but the thin end of a wedge, which in time might bring about the total abolition of the holidays in all public offices. Any curtailment of the allotted number of days now granted under the Negotiable Instruments Act would not only be a source of serious dissatisfaction but inflict great hardship, while the solution proposed by the Lieutenant Governor, though it may satisfy the requirements of the trade would be a departure from the principle of religious neutrality.

A GREAT tract of the Mississi pi valley is submerged by the bursting of the dykes, and it is feared that the floods will not subside in time for the planting of next cotton crop.

THE mail brings details of Lord Randolph Churchill's attack upon the Government in regard to the Parnell Commission. He said he had watched the proceedings from 1888 in connection with the Parnellite inquiry with indignation and dismay. Every clause of the Special Commission Act had been forced through the House by a use of the closure so ruthless that only the most urgent considerations of public safety could have justified this procedure. It was unprecedented, unparalleled, a tremendous instrument of oppression, arbitrary, tyrannical, and would have startled even Lord Eldon. Lord Randolph continuing his attack, said :—'Nemesis awaits the Government that adopts unconstitutional methods. What had been the result of this uprooting of constitutional practices? Pigott! (Home Rule cheers.) What had been the result of this mountainous parturition? A thing: the reptile monster Pigott! What, with all your skill and all your cleverness, had been the result? A ghastly, bloody, rotten fœtus, Pigott! (Laughter and cheers.) I hope a similar Nemesis will always await the Government when it departs flagrantly from constitutional principles. The *Times* has been guilty of an atrocious libel of members of this House. Have we condemned this delinquent? If Government insist on this motion, I also insist on my right as a member of the House to record my vote in favour of the condemnation of the *Times* as guilty of an atrocious libel. His Lordship proceeded to warn the Government of the peril of its dangerous path by pointing to the result of the elections, which show great shifting. Lord Randolph Churchill said that public opinion was not favourable to the prospects of the Unionist party. The Irish warmly applauded the speaker. Writing about this somewhat remarkable speech the *Star* says that the death-like silence in the House on such an occasion as this, is a most eloquent proof of the potency of speech. "uch a silence raised the incident to that empySean of exalted passion hat m kes the Chamberr at times more melodramatic than the most thrilling scenes on the stage." The *Times* writes that Lord Randolph Churchill has once more perpetrated one of those extraordinary blunders by which he has contrived to squander away in the space of four years the great opportunities of wide popularity that fortune placed at his command after Mr. Gladstone's everthrow. The Conservatives are indignant at Lord Randolph's attack on the Government.

Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Madras, 3rd April 1890.

THE Friday of the week before last was a gala day to the members of the Madras University. On that day those who passed the higher Examinations were summoned by the Chancellor to wear their gowns, to receive their diplomas and to be invested with hoods. The Convocation is an interesting and splendid occasion when the cream of the English-educated of the year meet to be formally declared by the University as competent to enter the battle of life. Unlike in Calcutta, in Madras every year a Fellow of the University is nominated to deliver the annual address. In the 32 years that have elapsed since the foundation of the University, only on three occasions was the privilege of delivering the Convocation Address fallen on the Native Fellows. The first two were the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Muthuswamy Iyer, Judge of the High Court, and Rajah Sir T. Madhava Rao. The third was Rai Bahadur P. Renganatham Mudaliar M. A., Professor of Mathematics, Presidency College. Mr. Renganatham is a man of admirable talents. He is a professor of Mathematics, a professor of literature, a professor of philosophy. Mr. W. W. Hunter, President of the Education Commission, held him in high estimation and Mr. Renganatham distinguished himself greatly by his labours in the Commission. His accent and pronunciation are models of perfection, and his deportment the very embodiment of that which becomes an accomplished gentleman. In recent years he has evinced interest in the Municipal affairs of the city, furthered the formation of Rate-payers' Associations and expressed decisive opinions on behalf of social reforms. The announcement, therefore, that he would exhort the graduates to conduct themselves suitably excited very great interest. And I am glad to say that Mr. Renganatham acquitted himself creditably. The delivery was bold and excellent. He called the attention of the graduates to the rate of mortality among them and warned them "to guard against the fatal error of their mental growth so far outrunning their physical growth as to endanger bodily health or even life itself." And he condemned the present educational system by depicting its effects thus :—"With a variety of examinations to pass, with the high-pressure methods of imparting instruction in vogue, and with a hereditary aptitude for getting things by heart, the Hindu youth is sorely tempted to pore over his books day and night forgetting that he has a bodily frame to build up as well as a mind to stock with knowledge." And he exhorted his audience to diffuse among their countrymen true notions concerning natural objects and natural forces. "The greater part of human misery is due," said Mr. Renganatham, "to ignorance—ignorance in regard to the character of physical forces—ingorance of the invariable sequences of cause and effect in the realm of nature". The professor grew eloquent when he referred to the wretched and insanitary life which the mass of his countrymen lead. "Is there ground to hope that the masses," asks Mr. Renganatham, "will in their present state of ignorance, find out what it is that makes human beings fall like grass beneath the mower's scythe, and hasten to adopt the remedies that science has devised for alleviating human suffering and prolonging human life? Can they be made to feel that their houses require to be kept clean and white-washed, that their drains need flushing, that their streets need widening? Are they likely to realise the need for preserving the wells and tanks that supply drinking water free from impurities of all kinds? What they are likely to say and do is what they have so often said and done, and that is to plead poverty and inability and to submit themselves with such resignation as they can command to the decrees of an over-ruling fate." Having stated in such lucid terms the low living of the masses Mr. Renganatham pointed out in what peculiarly fortunate situation the graduates were to better the condition of the masses and to earn for themselves their everlasting gratitude. "Graduates of the University", said Mr. Renganatham, "I wish I can, by any words of mine, make you feel what a vast field of useful labour lies before you in imparting to your fellow-countrymen the rudiments of natural knowledge..... .....Judge then what immense benefit you will confer on the generation to which you belong and through them to succeeding generations, if through your exertions men learn to lead healthier lives and to suffer less from the maladies that flesh is heir to." As to our political aspirations, Mr. Renganatham advised us to ask for more privileges, but to ask in such a manner as to produce the least possible irritation and friction. This part of his address will be read with interest in Calcutta as well as in Madras. "It may well be that you are not", said Mr. Renganatham, "content with what you have already got, but remember that you owe this very sense of a better condition of things than the present to that wise generosity which prompted our rulers to raise us from a state of ignorance and moral stagnation to a state of comparative clearness of intellectual vision and moral activity "Ask by all means for what more you may want" —mark these words well—"but ask in such a way that there may be no doubt or misgiving in regard to your loyalty and obedience to established authority." Of late much has been written and said regarding self-Government. As that subject evokes considerable attention in Bengal just now, the readers of the *Patriot* may be happy to know what a patriot in Madras considers of it. The following weighty words of Professor Renganatham deserve to be inscribed in character of gold and marked, read and inwardly digested by all the sons of India. "Self-Government ordinarily means the governing of a people by themselves, but it may also mean the governing of one's self by one's self. The true measure of a people's fitness for self-government in the former sense is to be found in their fitness for self-government in the latter sense. If a great majority of the individuals composing a community are characterised by weakness of purpose, error of judgment, blind adhesion to custom, and ill-regulated desires, it is idle to expect such a people to possess in a collective capacity the intellectual and moral virtues required for a wise and beneficial management of their own affairs. Your first duty then is clear. Raise yourselves individually, acquire a sound knowledge of the laws of human well-being and progress, endeavour to lead pure and blameless lives, strive to control the lower passions of your nature and by constant practice of self-denial, learn the lesson of doing good. Of this be sure that, to the extent to which you become wise and virtuous men, to that extent only will you be fit to exercise political power, and the fitness to exercise such power must, as history sufficiently proves, be followed sooner or later by the attainment of it." And on social reform Mr. Renganatham spoke decisively and asked us to reconstruct our Shastras so as to suit the requirements of the present. Institutions that suited the men of a by-gone age can hardly suit us who live under a very different environment. Mr. Renganatham asked the graduates to study their mother-tongue, to improve it so as to make it a fit medium of communication for Western ideas in Science and Philosophy, not to neglect humanising studies, not to become slaves to routine, to maintain a well-balanced mind—a mind with a clear sense of the true and the just —a mind with a keen sense of the beautiful in nature and art—a mind instilled with noble feelings."

His Excellency the Governor has opened the other day the Mahomedan Library, which has been located in a building specially built for the purpose and laid the foundation-stone of the Technical Institute and Free Library. Rai Bahadur Dhanapati Mudaliar subscribed on behalf of the former twenty thousand rupees.

The Graduates' Association held its annual meeting on Saturday before last. Though the entire number of graduates is more than 2,000, the Association has only 256 members on its rolls, of which 109 paid not their subscriptions in the proper time! If this is the way in which the graduates evince their appreciation of union and devotion to the interest of their mother-land then what hope is there of our political and social salvation? Mr. Justice Mathuswami Iyer was again elected President of the Association and Messrs. Rai Bahadur Subbaramaniyer and P. Renganatham Mudaliar, Vice-Presidents and Mr. R. B. Sankara Menor Buksh, Secretary.

The Governor has left Madras for Ootacamand. It is freely talked about here that His Excellency in consequence of the divorce suit filed by Lady Connemara against him is soon to vacate his high office or at least to go home on leave, if he could induce the Secretary of State to pass a Bill in his favor enabling him to leave his post for a while.

Extracts.

LORD DUFFERIN'S CONCLUSIONS ON INDIAN REFORM.

(India)

THE ELECTIVE PRINCIPLE ACCEPTED.

In a despatch which the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava sent to the Secretary of State for India, several months before he gave up his Viceroyalty, his lordship declared that it appeared to his colleagues and to himself that the time has come to take another step in the development of the same Liberal policy, and to give, to quote his own words, "a still wider share in the administration of public affairs to such Indian gentlemen, as by their influence, their acquirements, and the confidence they inspired in their fellow-country men are fitted to assist with their counsels the responsible rulers of the country. In pursuance of this aim, he proceeded to say: But it is necessary there should be no mistake as to the nature of our aims, or of the real direction in which we propose to move. Our scheme may be briefly described as

A plan for the enlargement of our Provincial Councils,
For the enhancement of their status,
The multiplication of their functions,
The partial introduction into them of the elective principle,
And the liberalisation of their general character as
Political institutions.

From this it might be concluded that we were contemplating an approach, at all events as far as the Provinces are concerned, to English Parliamentary Government and an English constitutional system. Such a conclusion would be very wide of the remark, and it would be wrong to leave either the India Office or the Indian public under so erroneous an impression. India is an integral portion and it may be said, one of the most important portions of the mighty British Empire. Its destinies have been confided to the guidance of an alien race, whose fuction it is to arbitrate between a multitude of conflicting and antagonistic interests, and its Government is conducted in the name of a monarch whose throne is in England. The Executive that represents her *imperium* in India is an executive directly responsible, not to any local authority, but to the Sovereign and to the British Parliament. Nor could its members divest themselves of this responsibility as long as Great Britain remains the Paramount administration in India. But it is of the essence of constitutional Government as English understand the term, that no administration should remain at the head of affairs which does not possess the necessary powers to carry out whatever measures or policy it may consider to be for the public interest. The moment these powers are withheld either by the Sovereign or Parliament, a constitutional Executive resigns its functions, and gives way to those whose superior influence with the constituences has enabled them to over-ride its decisions, and who consequently become answerable for whatever line of procedure may be adopted in lieu of that recommended by their prodecessors.

In India this shifting of responsibility from one set of persons to another is, under existing circumstances impossible, for if any measure introduced into a Legislative Council is vetoed by an adverse majority, the Governor cannot call upon the dissentients to take the place of his own official advisers, who are nominated by the Queen-Empress on the advice of the Secretary of State. Consequently the vote of the Opposition in an Indian Council would not be given under the heavy sense of responsibility which attaches to the vote of a dissenting majority in a constitutional country, while no responsible executive could be required to carry on the Government unless forced to inaugurate whatever measures it considers necessary for the good and safety of the State. It is therefore obvious that for this and many other reasons, and no matter to what degree the liberalization of the Councils may now take place, it will be necessary to leave in the hands of each Provincial Government the ulti-

mate decision of all important questions, and the paramount control of its own policy.

The reconstitution of the Provincial Councils necessary for purposes of Administrative Efficiency.

It is in this view that we have arranged that the nominated members in the Council should out-number the elected members, at the same time that the Governor has been empowered to over-rule his Council whenever he feels himself called upon by the circumstances to do so.

Fortunately whilst the Government of India has been occupying itself in framing proposals for reconstituting its provincial Legislative Councils, it has also at the suggestion and with the still further decentralization of our financial system and for handing over to the Provincial Government a more complete and independent control of the Provincial revenues. At the same time certain powers of supplementing and increasing the local funds by Provincial taxation is to be attributed to them. Thus Provincial Councils will be admitted to a very large and important field of Provincial administration and ample scope and opportunities will be given to its members, both native and English (amongst whom an adequate number of representatives of the British mercantile interests should be certainly included), to display their statesmanship and their ability to provide for the wants and interests of the extensive communities over whom their influence and jurisdiction will extend, and we have little doubt that if our project for the enlargement of the Provincial Councils is simultaneously and skilfully combined with our proposal for financial decentralization, not only will the legitimate political aspirations of the educated classes be amply satisfied, but greater administrative efficiency will be obtained to the manifest lightening of the almost intolerable burden of responsibility by which the Supreme Government is at present overweighted.

The discussion of the Budgets and Right of Interpellation as regards Domestic Matters recommended.

There are two further points of which I am desirous of alluding, though they are not connected with any question affecting the Provincial Council—I mean the mode in which the annual Budget is dealt with by the Government of India, and the advisability of allowing questions to be asked in the Legislative Councils. Our Committee has stated that in their opinion the changes suggested for the Provincial Councils should not be extended to the Governor-General's Supreme Council. In this opinion I entirely agree; nor it is necessary that I should desire our procedure to be amended. Under the existing law, it is only when a new tax is to be imposed that the Finance Member is required to submit his financial proposals to the Legislative Council, or that an opportunity is given to the members of that body to make observations in regard to them. When there is no new taxation, the Finance Member, merely publishes his Budget in the form of a pamphelt. For my own part, I think that a yearly financial discussion, in the Viceroy's Legislative Council would prove a very useful and desirable arrangement, and a very convenient preliminary to the subsequent debate which takes place on Indian Finances in the House of Commons later in the year. I do not by this mean that votes should be taken in regard to the various items of the Budget, or that the heads of the expenditure should be submitted in detail to the examination of the Council, but simply that an opportunity should be given for a full, free, and thorough criticism and examination of the financial policy of the Government.

Some such change as this would, I believe, prove as benificial to the Indian administration as it would be in accordance with the wishes of the European and native mercantile world of India. At present the Government is exposed to every kind of mis-apprehension and mis-representation in regard to its figures and its statement and their results. Were the matter to be gone into thoroughly and exhaustively on the occasion I suggest, by independent critics, who, however anxious to detect a blot or to prove the Government in the wrong, would be at all events, masters of their subject and cognisant of the technicalities and intricacies of Indian Finance, the result would be far more advatageous to the financial reputation of the Indian Government as well as more conducive to the improvement of our financial system than are the present perfunctory Indian financial debates in the House of Commons and the imperfect exposition of Indian finance in some of the English newspapers. I may add that our able Finance Member, Mr. Westland, entirely shares my view in regard to the desirability of the change of procedure which I thus venture to recommend.

The Right of Interpellation, a Means of Correcting Misapprehensions.

The second change in the procedure of the Supreme Legislative Council which I am inclined to recommend is, that under proper restrictions to be laid down by the Viceroy, its members should be permitted to ask questions in reference to current matters of domestic as distinguished from those of imperial interest that may have attracted public attention.

One of the great dangers of the present situation is the facility with which that section of the Press which is bent upon holding up English rule to the hatred and contempt of the people can go on day after day attributing to the Government intentions of inaugurating some obnoxious policy until they have worked up large sections of the community into a state of excitement and alarm; or else of inventing and exaggerating facts upon which they subsequently comment in a most malicious manner with the view of producing a disquieting effect upon the public mind and infusing into it a spirit of disloyality and discontent.

Under existing circumstances the Government of India has no means of controlling or neutralizing the effect of these mischievous practices. It has no adequate medium through which it can explain its policy, correct a wrong impression, or controvert a false statement and, though up to the present time the consequences of the evils I have indicated may not have become very serious or wide-spread, they contain the germs of incalculable danger. Consequently it would prove as great an advantage to the administration as it would frequently be a satisfaction to the members of the Council and the public at large, if reasonable opportunities were afforded of communicating to those interested the exact facts in regard to any questionable matter.

I do not think I need add anything more to the foregoing observations. The report of the committee sufficiently explains what are the leading features of our scheme as well as the considerations which have guided us in framing its chief provisions. The next step will be to submit them to the consideration of the Provincial Governments concerned, whose opinions in regard to the suggestions we have made would necessarily carry great weight, and require the most careful consideration. But I am anxious again to insist upon the fact that we are not introducing any essential alteration in that which already exists—we are not taking a new departure or starting upon fresh lines, or revolutionising the constitution of our present councils. We are building upon those foundations which Sir Charles Wood exhibited such sagacity in laying; we are expanding, enlarging. Though we are adopting the "elective" principle to a modified extent, we must remember that in India, as it exists at present, no real representation of the people can be obtained; all that we hope to do is by associating with ourselves in the task of administration considerable number of persons selected and elected from the educated classes, to place ourselves in contact with a larger surface of native opinion, and to multiply the channels through which we may make ourselves acquainted with the wants and feelings of the various communities for whose welfare we are responsible. But while resorting largely and frankly to this instrumentality, we shall still retain in our own hands, the whole of that sensitive machinery afforded by our Civil Service which spreading like a net-work over the land, has enabled us with signal success to adapt both our legislation and our policy to the expanding wants and shifting circumstances of the times. On most occasions, it will probably be found that the conclusions reached through either medium will be the same. When however they prove to be antagonistic, we have imposed upon the head of each provincial Executive, the responsibility of determining by which of the two sources of information he will be guided

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Inspection of Specimen invited. 238

THE SUSPENSION OF MR. LABOUCHERE.

The Austrian Lloyd's s.s. *Imperator* brings later news than the last mail, containing, among other things the full report of the suspension of Mr. Labouchere, M. P.

In the House of Commons on the evening of the 28th February the house went into Committee of Supply, and on the vote on account for £3,725,103 in connection with the Civil Service and Revenue Departments, Mr. Labouchere moved the reduction of the vote by £100, which was directed at the salaries of certain officials, on the ground that they had been concerned in defeating the course of justice by endeavouring to prevent Lord Arthur Somerset and others from being put on their trial for offences in connection with the Cleveland-street case. As to Lord Arthur Somerset, he asserted that in consequence of the Government not taking proceedings against him, Sir D. Probyn, the Comptroller of the Prince of Wales's household, called on Lord Salisbury and obtained from him a promise that a warrant would be obtained against Lord Arthur next day; that Lord Salisbury took steps to make this known to Lord Arthur, who left the country the same night, and that the warrant was not issued for three weeks afterwards. He charged Lord Salisbury, the Attorney-General and others with being parties to a criminal conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice, and he demanded a Committee, before which he would prove all the charges he had made.

The Attorney-General denied the charges, which he described as infamous, with indignation; and asserted that the Government had done nothing, directly or indirectly, to impede the course of justice. He admitted that Sir D. Probyn had waited on Lord Salisbury, but he read a letter from Lord Salisbury stating that he had not said anything about a warrant being issued against Lord Arthur Somerset, and he challenged Mr. Labouchere to name his informant. Mr. Labouchere said he would hand in writing the name of his informant to the Attorney-General, and leave him to read it out if he pleased.

The Attorney-General replied that it was for Mr. Labouchere to state the name of the informant to the House, and he repeated that there was not the slightest foundation for the charge that the course of justice has been interfered with.

Mr. Labouchere again offered to the Attorney-General the written name of his informant, and asserted that he did not believe Lord Salisbury. This was received with loud cries of "withdraw," in reply to which Mr. Labouchere, with great emphasis, repeated his assertion. Amid renewed cries of "withdraw," Mr. Courtney, who presided, required him to withdraw the language, which Mr. Labouchere several times

Dr De Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil.—Its Unequalled Efficacy in Cases of Chronic Cough.—This celebrated Oil has been most extensively, and successfully used in the treatment of Chronic Cough. It effectually corrects the morbid action and deposits of mucuous surfaces of the throat and bronchial tube, and speedily always the irritation which produces frequent and prolonged coughing. Dr. Hunter Semple, Physician to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, writes:—"I have long been aware of the great reputation enjoyed by the Light Brown Cod Liver Oil introduced into medical practice by Dr de Jongh. and have recommended it with the utmost confidence. I have no hesitation in stating my opinion, that it possesses all the qualities of a good and efficient medicine. Its taste is by no means disagreable, and might even be called pleasant. I can fully believe that from its richness in chemical principles, it is superior in efficacy to many, or perhaps all, of the pale-coloured Oils. I have found Dr. de Jongh's Oil very useful in cases of Chronic Cough, and especially in Laryngeal Diseases complicated with Consumption." Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod-Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pint, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and label under wrapper, by all chemists druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co. 210 High Holborn, London.

refused to do. Mr. Courtney then named him, and Mr. W. H. Smith thereupon moved his suspension, and the motion was carried by 177 to 96.

The Speaker having taken the Chair, the decision of the Committee was reported to the House, and a further division was taken, when the motion was carried by 78 to 97.

Mr. Labouchere left the House amid Parnellite and Radical cheers. Notice was given that the ruling of Mr. Courtney would be challenged, and several motions followed for reporting progress. At midnight the closure was moved by Mr. Fulton and carried. Mr Labouchere's amendment was then negatived by 206 to 66. At this stage progress was reported.

The papers give detailed reports of the scene in the House.

After an acrimonious discussion in which the Attorney-General was frequently interrupted by Mr. Labouchere, the latter said that he would deal with the question of Lord Salisbury. The hon'ble and learned gentleman said that Lord Salisbury did not say anything about the warrant because he told him that he said something about something else. (Ministerial cries of " Oh ".)

The Attorney-General: I stated distinctly that Lord Salisbury denied the allegation about the warrant. I had not his words at that moment before me. They are " I said nothing whatever about the date of the issue of the warrant " (Ministerial cheers.)

An hon. member : The date !

Mr. Labouchere: The hon. and learned gentleman thought that he had proved his case by saying, "where did you get your information from ?" I offered to write the name of the gentleman on a piece of paper and submit it to the hon. and learned gentleman, and if he then, having seen the name, liked to read it to the House he was at liberty to do so. (Ministerial cries of " Read it yourself.") I leave it to the Attorney-General. (Opposition cheers) The Attorney-General seemed to accept that, but he thought better of it afterwards, and I can perfectly well understand why he did not accept the proposal. But I am obliged to speak frankly and truly in this matter.—(Ministerial laughter and Opposition cheers)—and if am obliged to do it, I will say that I do not believe Lord Salisbury. (Opposition cheers, and Ministerial cries of "Oh, oh,' followed by " Withdraw.")

The Chairman : The hon. member is aware that there is such a thing as courtesy due from members of this House to members of the other House. (Ministerial cheers.) It would be intolerable if the hon. member used that expression to a member of this House. It cannot be used to a member of the other House. (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr. Labouchere (emphatically) : Sir, I repeat it (Opposition cheers, and Ministerial cries of " Withdraw.")

The Chairman ; I call upon the hon. gentleman to withdraw that.

Mr. Labouchere : I decline, Sir, to withdraw it. (cries of " Name.")

The Chairman : I shall have to exercise the authority vested in me by the Standing Order if the hon gentleman declines to withdraw. (Cries of " Withdraw" from both sides of the House.) Does the hon. member withdraw ?

Mr. Labouchere : No, Sir.

The Chairman: I name Mr Henry Labouchere. (Ministerial cheers.)

Mr. W. H. Smith (who was received with ironical Opposition cheers) : It is my duty, Sir, to move that Mr. Henry Labouchere be suspended from the service of this House. (Ministerial cheers.)

The Chairman : The question is that Mr. Henry Labouchere be suspended from the service of this House.

The House was cleared for a division, the tellers for the Opposition being Mr. M. Stanhope and Mr. W. M'Arthur.

The Committee divided—

For the Motion ...	... 177
Against	... 96
Majority for	... 81

The Speaker: The Ayes have it. I have now to call on the hon. member for Northamton to withdraw.

Mr. Labouchere : I beg to withdraw, expressing at the same time regret that my conscience would not allow me to say that I believed Lord Salisbury. (Loud Opposition cheers.)

BACK FROM THE GRAVE.

A WONDERFUL STORY, AS RELATED BY A BIRMINGHAM MOTHER.

(Birmingham, England, *Saturday Night.*)

Our representative called the other afternoon upon Mrs. Durrant, of 79, Camp Hill, Birmingham, England, with reference to a strangely wonderful case in which her son had been the prominent figure. Our representative was received with great politeness by the mistress of the house, a pleasant motherly-looking lady. On mentioning the nature of our business, we were immediately shown into a cosy comfortably-furnished parlour, where we remained for nearly two hours, listening with engrossed interest to the marvellous story of how Thomas Durrant was literally Brought Back from the Grave.

"My son, Thomas Stephen Durrant," began the good lady, "will be 19 years old on the 4th March. Although never a sturdy, robust lad, he still up to the middle of last year had been in the enjoyment of fairly good health. By profession he is a clerk, having for between five or six years been in the employment of Messrs. E. R. Pearce and Co , 104, Great Charles Street, Birmingham, England. Owing to the death of the head of the firm, last year, he had to seek out another situation, being next engaged as junior clerk at Messrs. Grainger Smith and Walter, of Carrs Lane, Birmingham, England. It was when he had been at this situation for about three weeks that the symptoms of the ailment first showed themselves from which he has since been so great a sufferer." Mrs. Durrant here paused for a minute or so before recommencing her narrative.

"I am afraid," she at last began, in a voice tremulous with emotion, "that the majority of people who read this marvellous story concerning my son will entertain great doubts as to the genuineness of the case I am about to lay before you. I can very well understand them doing so, for at times even I hardly seem able to realise that my dear boy, after passing through so much suffering, has really been safely brought back from the valley of the shadow of death. However, in order to give the curious or unbelieving a full opportunity of testing the accuracy of my statement, I give dates and addresses, and whenever practicable, names, too. You will understand that in some cases I could not give names without causing great annoyance and offence to worthy gentlemen whose feelings I would not willingly hurt. Otherwise I have nothing I desire to conceal, indeed shall only be too glad to give all the publicity I can to the case, if but to show my gratitude for the wonderful manner in which my son was rescued from death.

"It was in the early part of June last that Tom first began to feel unwell. He became aware of a swelling in the ankles and round the eyes, while a few days after this he was also afflicted with glandular swelling. Without being in any actual pain, he soon became affected with an unusual sensation of languor and heaviness. For a week or so he remained at his employment, but as his legs continued to swell, he was at last compelled to desist from his occupation. On Saturday, June 23rd, he went home and took to his bed, where he remained until Tuesday morning. On that day he went to the Queen's Hospital with a view of becoming an out-patient. The surgeon, after having examined him, immediately recommended that he should at once go into the institution. My son assenting, he remained at the hospital for 10 weeks and 2 days. During that period he underwent several operations and apparently all possible was done for him. Despite the fact that his legs were punctured and he went through a regular course of medicine, he kept getting worse, swelling so much that he could not leave his bed.

"At length," here the mother's voice became broken as she called the mental agony and anxiety of the past few months, "one day on going to the hospital I was informed that my poor lad had better be transferred to the General Hospital, and from there to the Jaffray Suburban. On making inquiries as to the reasons for this step, the doctor said that they had done all that lay in their power to save him, and that they could see very little chance of his recovery. He told me that Tom was filling rapidly and might die at any minute, that he had Bright's Disease in its worst form, and that little else than a miracle could save his life.

"Even while he had been lying in the hospital under their treatment I had often thought I should like to try a remedy of which I had read in *Saturday Night*, a journal ever welcome in our happy home. While I thought my son was progressing favourably I restrained my desire to do this, for who was I that I should presume to dictate to properly-qualified practitionrs as to what medical course should or should not be adopted! When, however, they practically admitted their inability to cure poor Tom, I determined no longer to resist my convictions, but made up my mind to give that farfamed medicine a trial of which I had read so much in the pages of Birmingham's popular week-end paper.

"Immediately on Tom's arrival home, he commenced taking Warner's Safe Cure, and obeying their dietic instructions, which I found to my surprise were totally at variance with the hospital directions. Notwithstanding this, however, I persisted in the course laid down by Warner's. There was no appreciable difference observable in the lad during the first week, but on Saturday, September 21st, he was seized with convulsions, which, on passing off, left him entirely blind. At about 4 o'clock on the same day, he had another attack which entirely took away his speech. A doctor whom I called in informed me that my son could not possibly last the night through. He was altogether unconscious for three days, after which I again commenced giving him Warner's Safe Cure. By the end of the week he had partially regained both sight and memory. I still kept the doctor in attendance upon my son, as I feared in case of his death some trouble might arise. Notwithstanding this, I am in a position to most solemnly aver that from the time that Tom left the hospital, on September 5th, up to the present day he has taken no medicine whatever except Warner's 'Safe 'Cure.

"On Saturday, October 5th, at mid-day, he had another convulsion, which left him completely paralysed all down him left side.

"From this period," continued the good lady, "my son commenced mending. The water began to disperse from the abdomen first, then from the legs, and lastly from the paralysed parts. As the weeks went by he continued to improve until, on Christmas Day, by the aid of a stick, he was actually able to crawl downstairs and eat his Christmas dinner with the rest of the family. Meanwhile, the paralysis had also been gradually leaving him, until now, at the present time, it has entirely gone.

"But come in and see for yourself," said Mrs. Durrant, and we followed her into an adjoining room, where, reclining in an arm chair by the brightly-glowing fire was young Thomas Durrant. He rose as our representative entered the room and stepping forward a couple of paces, offered us a thin white hand by way of welcome. He had the pale worn look of one who had been to the very threshold of the Shadow Portals, but a smile lighted his face, and his quiet voice had a cheerful ring, as he thanked us for coming. Speaking of his marvellous recovery, he joined with his mother in expressing to us his sense of the great debt of gratitude he owed to his deliverers from death. His last words ere we passed from the room will never fade from our memory : "I was given up by the doctors six months ago as incurable—dying. When they could stretch out no helping hand I found a benefactor greater than them all. I turned from them in despair, only to be snatched from the very brink of the grave by Warner's 'Safe' Cure."

In publishing the above interview, Mr. J. O. Hawkes, the editor of *Saturday Night*, says :—

"In another column will be found a full account of how Thomas Durrant was brought " Back from the Grave." The story is told in vivid language, and for the benefit of similar sufferers I think it only just and fitting that I should here remark that, of my personal knowledge, I can vouch for the truth of every word in the narrative of this most marvellous cure. The lad is well known to all the members of the staff of this paper, and his recovery has been watched by us with the very keenest interest."

Warner's 'Safe' Cure the remedy used by Mr. Durrant can be procured of all Chemists and at the Bazaars or of H. Ballantyne & Sons, Bombay, Calcutta, Rangoon, at 4s 6d per bottle.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a Missionary in old Mexico ; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W. C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper.

10

Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*April* 2, 1889.

General,—The services of Colonel W L Samuells, Deputy Commissioner, Singbhum, are replaced at the disposal of the Government of India in the Military Department.

Mr C Johnston, Assistant Collector, Cuttack, is vested with the powers of a Collector, under section 4 of the Public Demands Recovery Act VII (B C) of 1880 in that District.

Babu Juggut Chunder Roy, Sub-Deputy Collector, Basirhat, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to be a Special Deputy Collector for employment on revaluation work under Act IX (B C) of 1880 in the District of Nuddea.

Babu Nolin Chunder Roy, Sub-Deputy Collector, Maldah, is appointed to be a Special Deputy Collector for employment on revaluation work under Act IX (B C) of 1880 in the District of Murshidabad.

Mr A L Clay, Officiating Commissioner, Dacca Division, is allowed furlough for eight months on medical certificate under article 343 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 3rd proximo.

Mr N Warde-Jones, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Dinagepore, is allowed leave for one month and two days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Mr H G Cooke, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Hughly, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the 12th instant, vice Mr A Forbes, on deputation.

Mr C W Bolton, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, 24-Pergunnahs, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Magistrates and Collectors, with effect from the h instant, vice Mr. H G Cooke.

Mr Brojendro Kumar Seal, District and Sessions Judge, Bankura, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the 10th instant, vice Mr T D Beighton, on furlough.

Mr G G Dey, District and Sessions Judge, Backergunge, is ppointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the 13th instant, vice Mr F H McLaughlin.

Mr L R Forbes, Deputy Commissioner, Chittagong Hill Tracts, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Deputy Commissioners, with effect from the 21st instant, vice Colonel W L Samuells.

Moulvi Mahomed Abdur Rauf, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rungpore, is allowed leave for one month and fifteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from such date as he may avail himself of it.

The orders of the 18th instant, granting privilege leave for three months to Babu Srinath Chatterji, Special Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, and appointing Babu Benode Behary Sircar Sub-Deputy Collector, to act for him, are cancelled.

Judicial Department,—Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers the undermentioned Honorary Magistrates of the Lalbagh Bench, in the District of Murshidabad, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language—

Kumar Ranajit Singh, Babu Akhoy Kumar De, Babu Janoki Nath Pandey, Babu Joggeshwar Sarkar and Moulvi Fazl-i-Rubbi.

Mr. T. Jones, Third Judge, Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, is allowed leave for three months under article 306 (*b*) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st May, 1890

Mr K. M. Chatterji, Fourth Judge, Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, is appointed to act as Third Judge of that Court, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. Jones, or until further orders.

Babu Jadu Nath Roy, Judge of the Court of Small Causes at Sealdah, is appointed to act as Fourth Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Calcutta, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. K. M. Chatterji, or until further orders.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at the sudder station of the District of Dinagepore, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class :—

Babu Hari Mohun Singha and Babu Hari Churn Guha.

Babu Girindra Chunder Bannerji, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Palamow, Lohardugga, is vested temporarily with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, and with powers under section 435 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Moulvi Mahomed Nesarul Huq, substantive *protempore* Munsiff of Lohardugga, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

Babu Krishna Chunder Sircar and Moulvi Mahomed Mofuzzal Hossein are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Benches at Tangail and Netrokona respectively, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Reverend G. S. Britto is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Hughly General Bench II, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Bhagwan Chunder Bhoumik of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Sudder Bench at Furridpore.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Ganga Proshad of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Monghyr Bench.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by the undermentioned gentlemen of their appointments of Honorary Magistrates of the Narail Bench in the District of Jessore:—

Babu Giris Chunder Bose and Babu Upendra Nath Sen.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Narail Bench in the District of Jessore, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

Babu Rasik Lal Bannerji and Babu Jodu Nath Ghose.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Shahebzada Amiruddin Mahomed, an Honorary Magistrate of the Hughly General Bench I, to take down evidence in criminal cases in the English language.

Babu Guru Prosad Chuckerbutty and Babu Raj Mohan Banerji are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at Kishoregunge in the District of Mymensingh, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Moulvi Ikram Rasul, Deputy Magistrate, Nuddea, is vested with powers under section 133 of Act X of 1882 (the Code of Criminal Procdure).

Babu Tulsi Churn Pal, Deputy Magistrate, Nuddea, is vested with powers under section 110 of Act X of 1882 (the Code of Criminal Procedure).

Babu Promatha Nath Chatterji, Munsiff of Buxar, in the District of Shahabad, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Smal Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the Buxar Munsiffi.

Babu Sham Chand Dutt is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Municipal Bench at Hughly, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Bishnu Chunder Adhicari of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Kutwa Independent Bench in the District of Burdwan.

Babu Girindra Chunder Pal Chowdhry is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the above-mentioned Bench, and isvested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Mr. J. W. Engelbregt, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Supul, Bhaugulpore, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Moulvi Mahomed Azhur, officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Giridi, Hazaribagh, is vested temporarily with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Babu Jugat Chunder Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Netrokona, Mymensingh, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

Grant of leave to Munsiff:—Shah Latafat Hossein, Munsiff of Gya, in allowed leave for four months under article 369 of the Civl Service Regulatious, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 31st January 1883.

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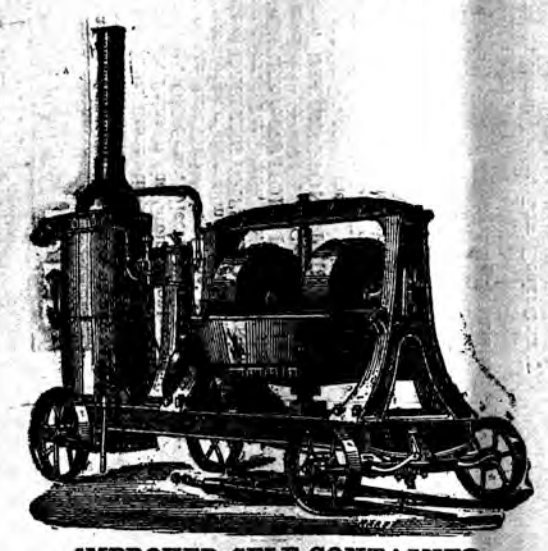

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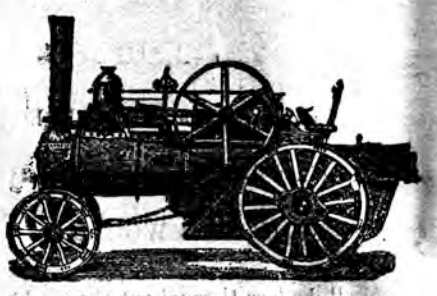

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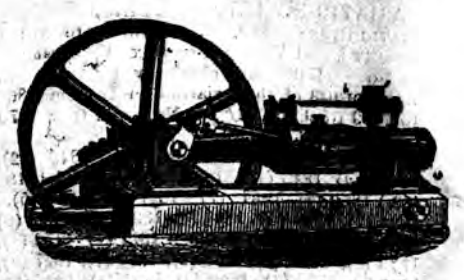

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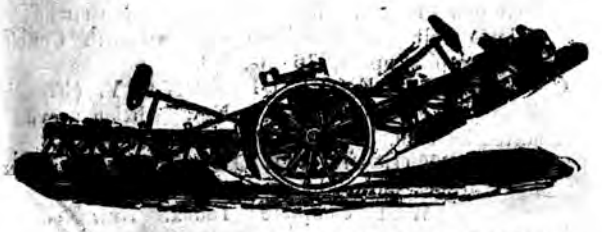

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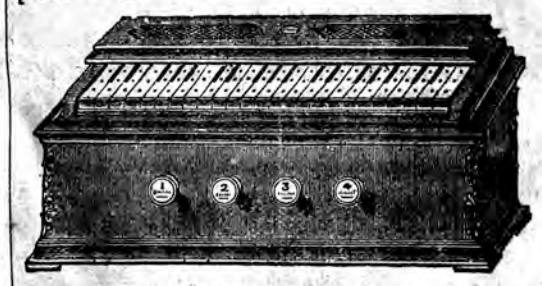

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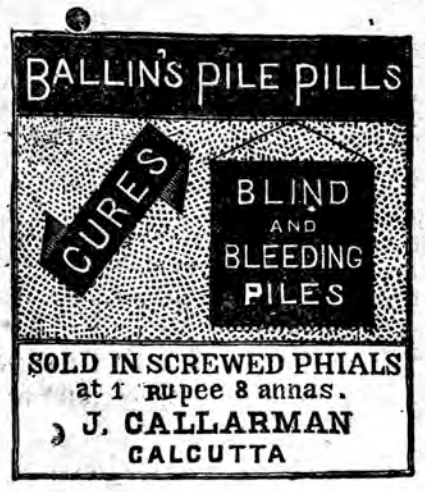

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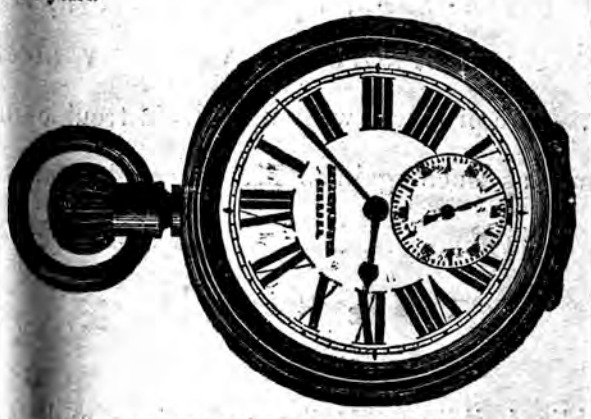

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Is hereby given to those who have any thing to do with the Bijni Estate in Goalpara that on the 8th March 1890, the Judge of 24 Pergunnahs decided in suit No. 28 of 1888, that on the 10th March 1875, the late Rajah Kumud Narayan Bhup married the plaintiff Rani Abhayswari Debi in the Brahma form, and he married the defendant, Rani Sidheswari, while she was *enceinte*, but her marriage is declared to be valid under the Hindu law. The *Anumatipatra* set up by her is pronounced to be a *false document* and the papers alleged to have been field in her favor by the plaintiff are found to have ben executed *without independent advice.* The Zemindaris of the Bijni Estate are stated to be *impartible* and the parties to the suit are *to enjoy the profits thereof* in equal proportion: the defendant *required* to furnish the plaintiff with accounts from the 9th March 1883, the date of the death of the said Raja.

GOWRI SHANKAR PANDAY,
Sole Authorized Agent
Of the Plaintiff above-named.

5, BABOO LAL'S LANE,
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254